

County Planning Commission and their staff for their hard work and dedication to Fairfax County. Their untiring, dynamic efforts have made Fairfax County a wonderful place to live and raise a family. I call upon my colleagues to join me in commending and congratulating the Fairfax County Planning Commission on 70 years of excellence.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on rollcall no. 470, H. Res. 1098, Supporting the goals and ideals of the Year of the American Veteran, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

#### HONORING THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES AERIE #1801

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I offer my congratulations to the members and leadership of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #1801 in Somerset, Pennsylvania, who will celebrate their 100th anniversary on July 30, 2008.

Originally founded in 1898 by a group of theatre owners, the Fraternal Order of Eagles was created to act as a social haven for the like-minded. As the Fraternal Order of Eagles spread throughout the United States, they sought, as they continue to do so today, to establish a fraternal system to encourage and provide assistance to members and their families through a system of mutual insurance which provided death benefits. In 1908, the citizens of Somerset organized the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #1801. Over the past one hundred years Aerie #1801 has focused on achieving their original objective, to "make human life more desirable by lessening its ills and promoting peace, prosperity, gladness, and hope." They have truly succeeded in their quest.

Throughout its history, the Fraternal Order of Eagles has sought to leave a truly memorable past on the pages of history. Not only does the Eagles' historical participation consist of seven U.S. presidents, including Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Roosevelt, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan, but they have also been incredibly charitable. Across the United States the Eagles donate more than \$100 million every year to charities. Members of Aerie #1801 lift up their community as well as surrounding communities by raising funds for a multitude of local and national charities. These charities include the Golden Eagles Fund, Robert Hansen Diabetes Fund, and the Jimmy Durante Children's Fund. Through actively pursuing lifting up those around them, the Eagles Aerie #1801 has truly been an integral part of Somerset, Pennsylvania. The leadership and members of Aerie #1801 have continuously provided Somerset with examples of civic leadership, charitable giving, and improv-

ing the borough in ways great and small. The Eagles have made Somerset an immeasurably enhanced place to live, work, and raise families.

The Somerset Fraternal Order of Eagles has provided a trustworthy atmosphere which has worked to help a multitude of men, women, and children throughout its history. I would like to congratulate the members and leadership of Aerie #1801 and Eagles who have assembled from across the country to be in Somerset on this occasion. I look forward to celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of such a wonderful organization, as it has brought a greater appreciation to our area and has surely been an asset to the community.

#### COMMENDING LIEUTENANT ANDREW PATE FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

#### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Andrew Pate for his service to the U.S. House of Representatives and the United States Coast Guard.

As some of you may know, Lieutenant Pate was detailed to the Coast Guard's House Liaison office in July of 2006, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to work closely with him over the past two years. My colleagues, staff, and I have valued his knowledge and understanding of the Coast Guard's operational missions, day-to-day challenges, and roles and responsibilities.

Lieutenant Andrew Leigh Pate is a native of Wesley Chapel, Florida. In the summer of 1998 he enrolled at the United States Coast Guard Academy, with summer duty assignments onboard Coast Guard cutters *Northland*, *Eagle* and *Drummond*. First elected as Treasurer of his Academy Class in 1998, Lieutenant Pate has served continuously as President of his Academy Class since the spring of 2000.

In May of 2002, Lieutenant Pate graduated from the Academy with a Bachelor's degree in Government. His first assignment was onboard the High Endurance Cutter USCGC *Gallatin* (WHEC 721) home ported in Charleston, South Carolina. While onboard *Gallatin*, Lieutenant Pate served in a variety of positions including Assistant Operations Officer, Combat Information Center Officer, and Maritime Law Enforcement Boarding Officer. His tour highlights include the interdiction and repatriation of over 570 Haitian migrants during Operations Able Manner and Able Sentry.

In June of 2004, Lieutenant Pate transferred to Fort Myers Beach, Florida as the fourth Commanding Officer of the 87-foot Coastal Patrol Boat USCGC *Marlin* (WPB 87304). From June 2004 to July 2006, *Marlin* successfully conducted over 250 law enforcement boardings in an operational area covering more than 108,000 square miles. These efforts resulted in the apprehension of 10 wanted fugitives, the voyage termination of 18 commercial fishing vessels for hazardous safety conditions and the interdiction and re-

patriation of over 150 Cuban migrants attempting to illegally enter the United States. Under Lieutenant Pate's command, *Marlin* safely evaded six major Hurricanes and conducted a total of 21 Search and Rescue cases saving the lives of 50 people.

Two years ago, Lieutenant Pate reported to the Hill as an Assistant House Liaison Officer for the Coast Guard. Since arriving in 2006, Lieutenant Pate has worked tirelessly to provide Members of Congress and their staff with timely, accurate, and detailed information needed to fulfill their duties. Through his careful planning and execution of dozens of Congressional Delegation trips and hundreds of briefings, Lieutenant Pate clearly articulated Coast Guard views in support of needed authorities and appropriations, working constructively with the Congress to ensure careful stewardship of resources.

On July 14, 2008, Lieutenant Pate will leave his post in the House Liaison Office and report to the Office of Senator ROGER WICKER (MS) for a one-year assignment as a Military Fellow.

I am proud to know and pay tribute to him in the United States Congress. On behalf of the Representatives and staff who have been fortunate enough to know and work with Andrew, I wish him, his wife Kristen, and their son Aidan, clear skies and following seas.

#### NISEI BASEBALL

#### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Nisei Pioneer Day and the past generations of Japanese American baseball players, coaches, and teams. For over a century, Japanese American baseball has been a strong bond that brought communities and cultures together while also teaching good sportsmanship. As the Japanese American community and baseball fans gather to celebrate the Nisei Pioneer Day Program in Sacramento, I ask that all my colleagues join me in honoring Nisei baseball.

Baseball has been an important sport in the Japanese community since it was first introduced in Japan in 1872 by American school teacher Horace Wilson. By the turn of the century baseball had become the Nation's most popular sport and in 1905 Japan's national champion Waseda University team toured the United States competing against various American colleges. Unfortunately, during this same time, anti-Japanese movements were on the rise in the United States. During this difficult time, Nisei baseball was able to bring Japanese Americans into the Nation's mainstream.

The 1920s and 1930s are often referred to as the "Golden Age" of Japanese American baseball. During this time many Japanese American communities across the West Coast were organizing teams and leagues. This brought the Japanese American community together in the wake of increasing anti-Japanese legislation. While laws such as the Immigration Act of 1924 were effectively ending Japanese immigration into the United States, baseball was providing a valuable bridge between the East and West Coast cultures for Issei and